What is claimed is:

1. A circuit arrangement for connecting trunk lines via PCM circuits to an exchange-internal switching network, for use in a switching-oriented system, comprising:

at least two line and trunk groups that form a redundancy pair and have at least one cross-connection, with each line and trunk group having at least one central controller;

at least one interface to the exchange-internal switching network;

a line circuit area for the PCM circuits;

at least one transformer/framer for synchronization for each PCM circuit, wherein the circuit arrangement is configured such that a fault occurring in the switching arrangement affects a maximum of two PCM circuits; and

switching elements, that directly and asynchronously select the PCM circuits individually and one of the two central controllers optionally, are positioned before the transformers/framers.

2. The circuit arrangement in accordance with claim 1, wherein each of the upstream switching elements has two relays, with one relay being able to switch a PCM circuit.

3. The circuit arrangement in accordance with claim 1, wherein control of the upstream switching elements is achieved by the central controller.

4. The circuit arrangement in accordance with claim 1, wherein the transformer/framer for synchronization of the PCM circuits is integrated into the central controller.

5. The circuit arrangement in accordance with claim 1, wherein each line and trunk group, that together forms a

redundancy pair, has as many transformers/framers as the total PCM circuits connected to the redundancy pair.

6. The circuit arrangement in accordance with claim 1, wherein a power supply of the line and trunk group and its surrounding components are integrated into the central controller.

7. The circuit arrangement in accordance with claim 1, wherein one microprocessor, that controls the functions of surrounding components, is arranged at each line and trunk group.